

Message

From: Rhotenberry, William [Rhotenberry.William@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/30/2017 3:33:32 PM
To: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]
Subject: Arkema Plant, Crosby TX

Lmk thx

Overview:

The Arkema Plant in Crosby, TX produces inorganic peroxides. The plant is currently under water with rising water. The plant has been evacuated of all personnel and there is a 1.5 mile enforced evacuation around the plant. Arkema is remotely monitoring the temperature of the trailers. Three of the trailers the cooling systems are still operational and they are ok. The remaining 5 trailers have lost their cooling system. In three of the five the temperature remains in the safe zone and on the remaining two they have lost the ability to monitor and do not know the temperature.

EPA is currently coordinating closely with Harris County Hazmat and Fire Department who are monitoring the situation with the USCG.

EPA's ASPECT plane has been deployed and is currently overflying the facility gathering Infra-red and photographic imagery.

Hurricane Harvey Operations personnel are putting together air and water modeling for two potential scenarios;

- 1) A decomposition and meltdown with a large quantity of peroxides being released into surface waters at the plant
- 2) An explosion/fire of one or multiple trailers

If a release occurs EPA will deploy an emergency response team consisting of an OSC/START Contractors to assess the release and develop a plan to mitigate damages to both human health and the environment ASAP.

Any firefighting activities would be conducted at the local level and EPA would provide air monitoring to the Harris County FD as needed/requested.

The responding OSC will also develop a surface water sampling plan to determine potential hazards of any release of hazardous substances to surface waters.

All of the proceeding is dependent on the ability to safely access the facility due to the current rising waters, therefore a timetable to begin ground operations is undetermined, however we will continue air operations and close coordination with local/State partners.